



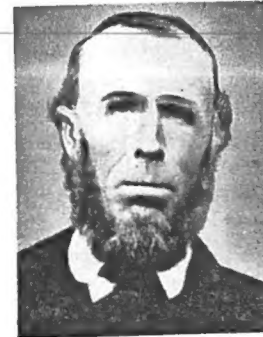
John Witt



William Wall



Sidney H. Epperson



Thomas Todd



Joseph McCarrell



John M. Murdock

Soldiers of Spanish American War



Moroni Turner



Elmer Duncan



Taylor Goodwin

Legislative Assembly to a four year term of office. The selectmen were to be elected by the county electorate for a term of three years.

Among the duties of the county court the most important were the management of all county business and the custody of all county property. The court also was to audit all claims, draw warrants on the county treasurer, divide the county into road districts, election precincts and school districts, locate building sites, grant water and timber rights, levy taxes, and oversee the care of the poor, insane, and orphaned.⁵ The court also appointed other county officials such as the clerk and the county assessor and tax collector. Duties in addition to the above included the regulation of contagious diseases, erection and direction of the county jail, jurisdiction over fisheries, and the creation of irrigation districts.⁶

In February, 1862, the territorial legislature elected John W. Witt as the first probate judge in Wasatch County. He in turn appointed as selectmen to fill the first term of office Thomas Todd, James Duke, and John Van Wagoner. The court then appointed John Harvey to be the assessor and collector; Snelling M. Johnson, sheriff;⁷ John M. Murdock, treasurer; John Sessions, surveyor; and Thomas M. Giles, superintendent of schools.⁸

The court next divided the county into precincts. That portion of the County east of the Provo River became precinct one. The officers were Thomas Rasband, justice of the peace; and Zemira Palmer, constable. Precinct two—that portion of the county west of the river—had Morton Jacobs as justice of the peace and Sidney Epperson as constable. Charles Shelton was the first county clerk.

⁵*Inventory of the County Archives of Utah*, No. 26, p. 24.

⁶*Ibid.*, p. 24. In addition to civil duties the county officers were frequently the leaders in church government.

⁷John Hamilton's name was substituted for sheriff when the list was submitted to the governor for approval.

⁸"Record of the County Court of Wasatch County, February 22, 1862," as cited in the *Wasatch Wave*, December 21, 1906.

